



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6105.0 - Australian Labour Market Statistics, Apr 2005

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Summary

Main Features

LABOUR STATISTICS NEWS

EMPLOYEE EARNINGS AND HOURS

Final results from the 2004 Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours were released on 23 March in the publication **Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia** (cat. no. 6306.0). This survey collected information from a sample of employers about the earnings, hours paid for, method of setting pay, and other selected characteristics of their employees.

Data from this survey on the methods used to set employees' pay is included in the spotlight section of this publication (see **Methods of setting pay**).

LABOUR THEME PAGE

The ABS **Labour Theme Page**, available on the ABS web site, provides a guide to the range of ABS statistics on the labour market, as well as links to the latest data released.

LONGITUDINAL CENSUS DATASET

A discussion paper on **Enhancing the Population Census Dataset: Developing a Longitudinal View** (cat. no. 2060.0) will be released in April 2005. This paper presents ABS views on enhancing data from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. It includes details of the proposal, reasons why the ABS is considering enhancing the population census dataset, and benefits of this dataset for statistical and research purposes. Privacy and confidentiality aspects are also discussed.

ABS is seeking the views of the public and ABS data users on this proposal, and the paper outlines the public submission process.

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS ON LABOUR TOPICS

The Monthly Population Survey comprises the Labour Force Survey and a range of supplementary surveys, which provide detailed information on a range of topics. Results from surveys on labour-related topics recently released include: **Job Search Experience, Australia** (cat. no. 6222.0); **Persons not in the Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6220.0); **Underemployed Workers, Australia** (cat. no. 6265.0); and **Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia** (cat. no. 6310.0).

UPDATED MEASURES OF LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION

The annual measures of labour underutilisation have been updated. These measures include groups of people such as the unemployed, the underemployed and discouraged jobseekers. The rates for September 2004 are included in the spotlight 'Annual measures of labour underutilisation' and in tables 4.1 and 4.2 in this publication.

ABS EMAIL NOTIFICATION SERVICE

By subscribing to this free service, you will be kept informed via email of the latest releases of ABS products. To subscribe, follow the link from the ABS home page <<https://www.abs.gov.au>>, provide your email address, and select your topics of interest.

Recent and upcoming statistical releases

Release date/title of publication	Reference period	Catalogue number
March 2005		
Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia	August 2004	6310.0
Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia	May 2004	6306.0
Industrial Disputes, Australia	December quarter 2004	6321.0.55.001
Job Vacancies, Australia	February 2005	6354.0
Labour Force, Australia	February 2005	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	February 2005	6291.0.55.001
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	September 2004	6220.0
Underemployed Workers, Australia	September 2004	6265.0
Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia	December quarter 2004	6248.0.55.001
April 2005		
Australian Labour Market Statistics	April 2005	6105.0
Characteristics of Small Businesses, Australia	2004	8127.0

Discussion Paper: Enhancing the Populatin of Census Dataset: Developing a Longitudinal View	2006	2060.0
Labour Force, Australia	March 2005	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	March 2005	6291.0.55.001
Measures of Australia's Progress: Summary Indicators	2005	1383.0.55.001
May 2005		
Average Weekly Earnings, Australia	February 2005	6302.0
Forms of Employment, Australia	November 2004	6359.0
Labour Force, Australia	April 2005	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	April 2005	6291.0.55.001
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia	November 2004	6250.0
Labour Price Index, Australia	March quarter 2005	6345.0
Labour Statistics in Brief, Australia	2005	6104.0
2006 Census of Population and Housing: Nature and content	2006	2008.0
June 2005		
Labour Force, Australia	May 2005	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	May 2005	6291.0.55.001
Labour Force Survey Standard Errors	2005	6298.0
Industrial Disputes, Australia	March quarter 2005	6321.0.55.001
Job Vacancies, Australia	May 2005	6354.0
Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia	March quarter 2005	6248.0.55.001
July 2005		
Australian Labour Market Statistics	July 2005	6105.0
Australian Social Trends	2005	4102.0
Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia	2003-04	6523.0
Labour Force, Australia	June 2005	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	June 2005	6291.0.55.001

NOTES

DATA CONTAINED IN THIS ISSUE

The statistics shown are the latest available at 24 March 2005. Data sources for the tables in this publication are listed in Appendix 1.

ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

The spreadsheets and data cubes referenced in this publication are available on the ABS web site at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [AusStats - Publications and Data], then [Data Cubes] or [Time Series Spreadsheets].

INQUIRIES

For information about other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Assistant Director, Labour Market Statistics Section, on Canberra (02) 6252 7636.

LABOUR MARKET SUMMARY

KEY MEASURES

Measure		Series type	Period	Current figure	% change from	
					Previous quarter(a)	Previous year(b)
Employed						
Persons	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	9,881.3	0.9	3.0
Full-time	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	7,057.5	0.8	2.8
Part-time	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	2,823.8	1.1	3.5
Part-time employment as a proportion of total employment	%	Trend	Feb 2005	28.6	(c)0.1	(c)0.1
Unemployed						
Persons	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	526.2	-2.9	-9.4
Looking for full-time work	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	379.0	-1.6	-10.5
Looking for part-time work	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	147.2	-6.2	-6.4
Unemployment rate						
Persons	%	Trend	Feb 2005	5.1	(c)-0.2	(c)-0.7
Long-term unemployment						
Persons	'000	Trend	Feb 2005	100.4	-6.2	-17.0
As a proportion of total unemployment	%	Trend	Feb 2005	19.1	(c)-0.6	(c)-1.7
Annual labour underutilisation rates(d)						
Long-term unemployment rate	%	Original	Sep 2004	1.2	na	(c)-0.1
Unemployment rate	%	Original	Sep 2004	5.5	na	(c)-0.4
Underemployment rate	%	Original	Sep 2004	5.6	na	(c) -
Labour force underutilisation rate	%	Original	Sep 2004	11.1	na	(c)-0.4
Extended labour force underutilisation rate	%	Original	Sep 2004	12.2	na	(c)-0.3
Children living without an employed parent(e)	%	Original	Jun 2004	17.2	na	(c)0.1
Labour force participation rate						
Persons aged 15-64 years	%	Trend	Feb 2005	75.5	(c)1.2	(c)0.7
Total persons	%	Original	Feb 2005	64.1	(c)0.3	(c)0.5
Actual hours worked						
Aggregate weekly hours	mill. hours	Original	Feb 2005	347.4	2.7	3.3

Average weekly hours - Persons	hours	Original	Feb 2005	35.2	1.9	-0.1
Average weekly hours - Full-time	hours	Original	Feb 2005	42.2	1.1	-0.4
Average weekly hours - Part-time	hours	Original	Feb 2005	17.0	2.9	0.5
Part-time workers						
Proportion who preferred to work more hours	%	Original	Feb 2005	26.3	(c)0.4	(c)-0.2
Wage price index						
Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses	index no.	Trend	Dec qtr 2004	103.1	0.9	3.5
Average weekly earnings						
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	Trend	Nov 2004	973.20	1.1	3.6
All employees total earnings	\$	Trend	Nov 2004	766.10	1.0	3.0
Compensation of employees						
Household income account	\$m	Trend	Dec qtr 2004	100,153	1.6	6.8
Average earnings (National Accounts basis - nominal) per week	\$	Trend	Dec qtr 2004	898	0.6	3.2
Industrial disputes						
Working days lost	'000	Original	Dec qtr 2004	51.9	-44.4	-65.7
Working days lost per 1,000 employees	number	Original	Dec qtr 2004	6.1	-46.1	-66.9
Job vacancies						
Australia	'000	Trend	Nov 2004	135.8	6.1	28.7

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

(a) Same period previous quarter (monthly data is presented for the middle month of each quarter).

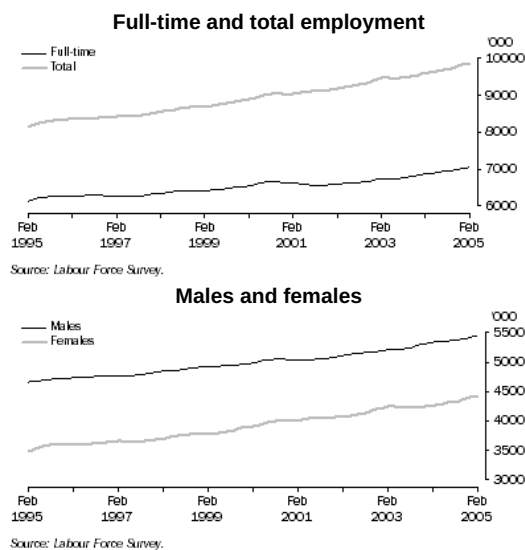
(b) Same period previous year.

(c) Change in in percentage points.

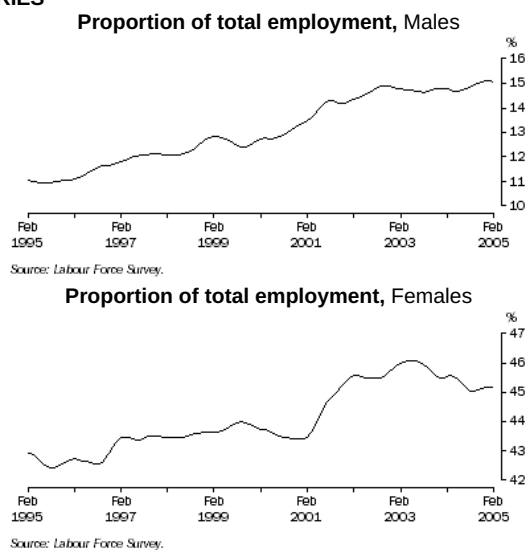
(d) See table 4.1 or the Glossary for further explanation of labour underutilisation rates.

(e) As a proportion of all children aged under 15 years. See the Explanatory Notes for information on family data.

EMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES

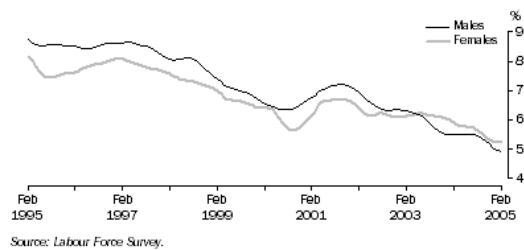


PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES

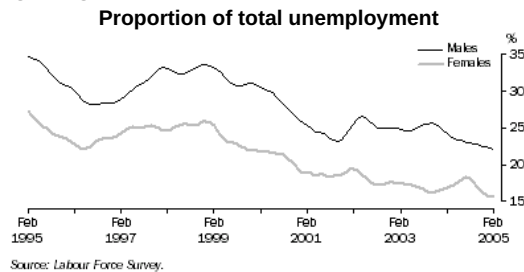


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: TREND SERIES

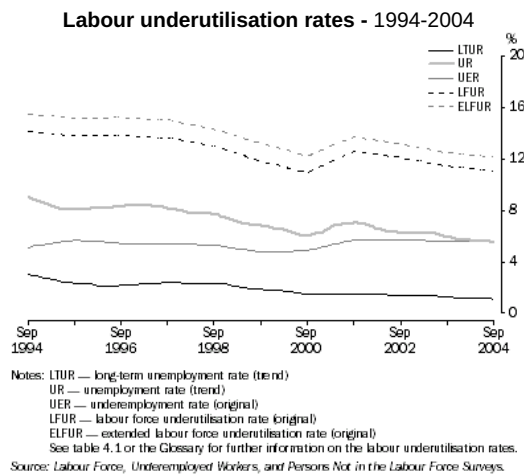
Males and females



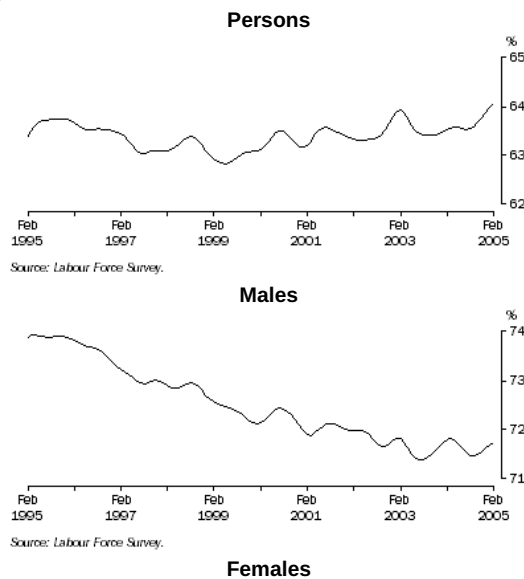
LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES

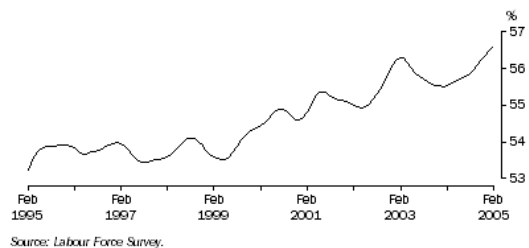


UNDERUTILISED LABOUR



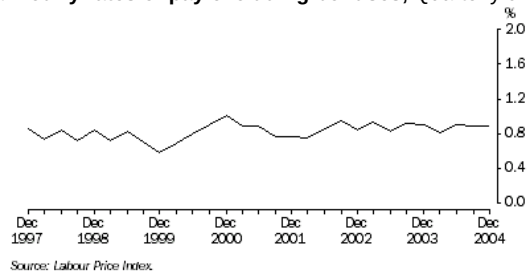
PARTICIPATION RATE: TREND SERIES





WAGE PRICE INDEX: TREND SERIES

Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses, Quarterly change

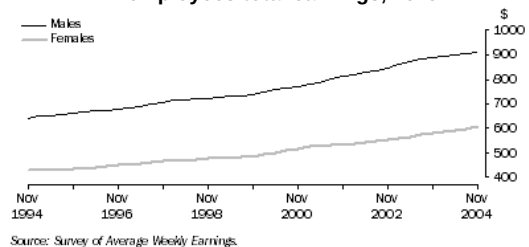


AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: TREND SERIES

Full-time adult ordinary time earnings, Quarterly change



All employees total earnings, Level



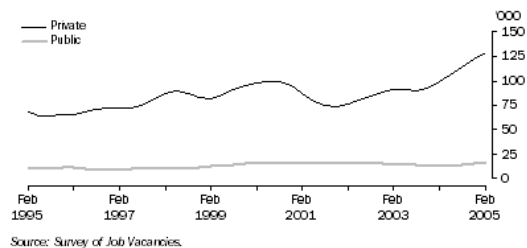
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: ORIGINAL SERIES

Working days lost, Quarter ending



JOB VACANCIES: TREND SERIES

Job vacancies, By sector



Main Features

The tables listed below are included in the publication **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0). Electronic sources of the data in these tables can be found in **Appendix 1**.

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articles

These articles were released with publication 6105.0 on the 01/04/2005

FEATURE ARTICLE - HEALTH, DISABILITY, AGE AND LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

FEATURE ARTICLE - PEOPLE WHO WORK FEW HOURS

About this Release

ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Replaces: Labour Force, Australia 6203.0

This publication is the flagship release for all ABS labour statistics. It draws together data from a range of sources, mostly ABS household and business surveys, to provide an overall picture of the labour market. The key purpose of this publication is to raise awareness of the data available, so that users will be able to use it more effectively.

It contains tables for core data items, presenting the most recent data available at a particular date (rather than relating to a particular reference period). It is also able to be used to announce the release of supplementary surveys and infrequent surveys. Note that, in addition to a brief article in this publication, these would also have separate releases, which would not be delayed by the release in this publication.

The publication is also used to release annual data on Indigenous labour force status, and annual supplementary measures of labour underutilisation. It includes a range of feature articles, both analytical and technical, which will assist users in understanding and interpreting the data and will also promote the range of data available from the ABS labour statistics program. It will be used to announce any changes to labour series or releases.

The publication contains brief explanatory notes, outlining each data source, but referring to the relevant releases, and to Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods 6102.0, for more detail.

People who work few hours (Feature Article)

Feature Article: People who work few hours

INTRODUCTION

The ABS definition of employment, used in the Labour Force Survey, counts as employed anyone who undertook paid work for one hour or more in the reference week of the Labour Force Survey. From an economic perspective, such work contributes to the production of goods and services and is therefore counted as employment, in line with International Labour Organisation standards. From a social perspective, though, of interest are people who usually work a relatively small number of hours. Some of these people may choose to work few hours to allow time for other aspects of their life (e.g. childcare or study). Others may be at risk of experiencing financial disadvantage or of not having their aspirations for work met.

This article focuses on people who were employed part-time in November 2004, particularly those working a relatively small number of hours. In ABS household surveys, people employed part-time are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week in all jobs (**end note 1**).

The fact that some people work few hours is of concern if these people are not satisfied with the amount of work they have. There are various measures that can be used to provide information on this issue, including measures of underemployed workers. Underemployed workers include part-time workers who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have.

As the ABS provides a wide range of data on underutilised labour, including underemployment (see the spotlight 'Annual measures of labour underutilisation', in this issue of **Australian Labour Market Statistics**, for more information), this article instead focuses on people who usually work 1-7 hours per week and who would prefer to work more hours (regardless of whether they are in a position to be able to or not).

This article examines the characteristics (e.g. age, sex, occupation) of those people who were employed in November 2004 and reported that they usually worked less than eight hours a week, and compares these people with other part-time workers.

OVERVIEW

In November 2004, there were 9.8 million people who were employed. Of these, 2.9 million people (or 30%) usually worked less than 35 hours a week in all jobs. About 400,000 people (or 4% of all employed people) usually worked less than 8 hours a week.

1. Employed people, By hours usually worked in all jobs each week - Nov 2004

Hours usually worked in all jobs each week	People	
	'000	%
0	29.9	0.3
1-7	369.6	3.8
8-14	563.5	5.8

15-24	1,044.0	10.7
25-34	894.6	9.1
35-39	1,917.1	19.6
40 or more	4,967.7	50.8
Total	9,786.5	100.0

Labour Force Survey.

People who usually work 0 hours a week are counted as employed in the Labour Force Survey if they actually worked one hour or more in the reference week of the survey. In November 2004 there were about 30,000 people in this category. However, the focus of this article is on people who are working part-time rather than those who usually don't work, so those people who usually worked 0 hours a week have been excluded from the analysis in the rest of this article.

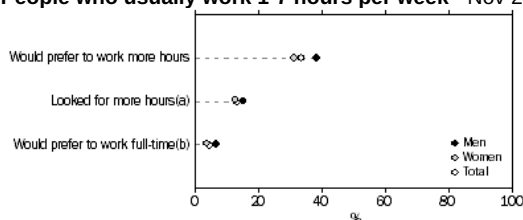
People who work few hours are more likely to be women than men (more than twice as many women as men usually worked 1-7 hours per week in November 2004), but the men who work few hours are more likely than women to want more hours. People who work few hours tend to be young (about 43% of those working these hours were aged 15-24 years in November 2004), are often students, and are most often working as either clerical, sales and service workers or labourers. Their main source of income tends to be either government pensions or allowances in cases where no other person in the household is employed, or the wages and salaries of others in the household. These characteristics are explored in more detail below.

Preference for more hours

In November 2004, most people who usually worked 1-7 hours a week did not want to work more hours. Overall, about one-third (33%) of those people who worked 1-7 hours a week wanted to work more hours. The proportion was higher for men (38%) than for women (31%).

In November 2004, about 13% of people who usually worked 1-7 hours a week had looked for more hours of work at some time in the four weeks before the survey. About 4% of people who usually worked 1-7 hours would have preferred to work full-time and were looking for additional work. This proportion was slightly higher for men (7%) than women (4%).

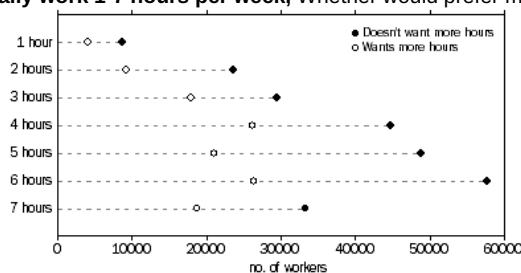
2. People who usually work 1-7 hours per week - Nov 2004



(a) In the four weeks prior to the survey.
(b) This group is a subset of people who looked for more hours in the four weeks prior to the survey. People who did not look are not asked whether they would prefer to work full-time.
Source: Labour Force Survey.

In November 2004, relatively few people (12,600 people, or 0.1% of all those who were employed) usually worked 1 hour per week. Most (56%) of the 369,600 people who worked between one and seven hours per week usually worked 5-7 hours.

3. People who usually work 1-7 hours per week, Whether would prefer more hours - Nov 2004

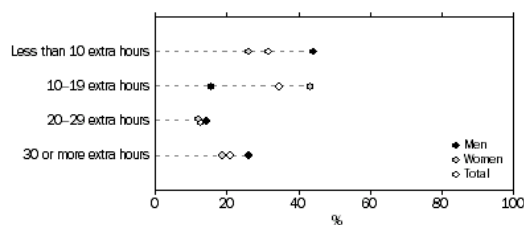


Sources: Labour Force Survey.

Underemployed workers

In September 2004, about two-thirds (66%) of underemployed people who usually worked 1-7 hours per week, wanted less than 19 additional hours of work per week (**end note 2**). There were some differences between the preferences of men and women. About 44% of men who usually worked 1-7 hours wanted less than 10 extra hours per week, while 26% wanted 30 or more additional hours per week. Women who usually worked 1-7 hours per week were more likely to want between 10 and 19 extra hours (43% wanted this amount), followed by 1-10 extra hours (26%).

4. Extra hours of work wanted, Underemployed(a) people who usually work 1-7 hours(b) - Sept 2004



(a) Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. See Glossary for full definition.
(b) Per week.
Source: Underemployed Workers Survey.

AGE AND SEX

In November 2004, almost 70% of the people who usually worked 1-7 hours per week were women. However, women were less likely than men to want to work more hours (31% of women working 1-7 hours per week would have preferred to work more hours, compared to 38% of men).

Men who worked 1-7 hours tended to be concentrated in the younger and older age groups. About 62% of men working these hours were younger than 25 years, and another 22% were at least 55 years. For men, working relatively few hours is associated with balancing work with education (see 'students' below for more detail on people aged 15-24 years who are studying) or with the transition to retirement (for those aged 55 years or older).

In November 2004, people aged 35-44 years who usually worked 1-7 hours per week were more likely than other age groups to prefer to work more hours. This was particularly noticeable for men, with 86% wanting more hours. About 40% of women aged 35-44 years would have preferred to work more hours.

Women, like men, who worked 1-7 hours were more likely to be aged 15-24 years than any other age group (35% of women working those hours were 15-24 years). However, women were much less concentrated in any one age group than men. Almost half (49%) of women working 1-7 hours per week were aged 25-54 years. Many of these women had children who were younger than 15 years (see 'relationship in household', below, for more detail).

5. People who usually work part-time, By age and sex - Nov 2004

	People who usually work 1-7 hours per week			People who usually work 8-34 hours per week		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
People who usually work part-time						
People (no.)	114,350	255,290	369,640	718,096	1,783,953	2,502,049
People who would prefer to work more hours (no.)	43,773	79,704	123,477	236,668	381,435	618,102
People who looked for more hours and would prefer to work full-time (no.)	7,439	9,012	16,451	90,382	112,331	202,713
Proportion who would prefer to work more hours (%)	38.3	31.2	33.4	33.0	21.4	24.7
Proportion who looked for more hours and would prefer to work full-time (%)	6.5	3.5	4.5	12.6	6.3	8.1
People usually working 1-7 or 8-34 hours per week, by age (%)						
Age (years)						
15-19	48.8	24.7	32.2	20.5	11.3	13.9
20-24	13.1	10.3	11.1	17.3	10.3	12.3
25-34	5.3	16.4	13.0	15.7	17.1	16.7
35-44	4.7	18.6	14.3	13.0	26.2	22.4
45-54	5.7	14.3	11.6	13.9	22.3	19.9
55+	22.4	15.7	17.8	19.5	12.8	14.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Proportion of each age group usually working 1-7 or 8-34 hours per week who would prefer to work more hours (%)						
Age (years)						
15-19	36.8	36.9	36.8	29.2	33.5	31.7
20-24	37.9	37.0	37.3	41.0	36.5	38.4
25-34	*34.9	22.5	24.1	41.3	21.4	26.8
35-44	86.1	40.1	44.8	36.0	17.2	20.3
45-54	*50.4	31.1	34.0	39.2	19.4	23.4
55+	29.4	17.2	21.9	16.5	10.6	12.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

Students

Most young people (aged 15-24 years) who were usually working 1-7 hours were balancing part-time work with full-time study or school.

In November 2004, over nine out of ten (93%) people who were aged 15-19 years and usually worked 1-7 hours per week were studying full-time (either at school or other educational institutions).

Of people aged 20-24 years who were working 1-7 hours, 76% were studying full-time, a slightly lower proportion than for those aged 15-19 years.

RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD

In November 2004, most of the people who usually worked 1-7 hours per week were either dependent students or were women who had children who were less than 15 years old.

Dependent students

Overall, about 32% of people who usually worked 1-7 hours per week were dependent students (**end note 3**). About one-quarter (25%) of women working 1-7 hours were dependent students, and nearly half (48%) of the men working 1-7 hours were dependent students. For dependent students the income earned from their employment may be supplementary rather than essential to pay the costs of living.

Women

In November 2004, the largest group of women who usually worked 1-7 hours were those who had a partner and had children who were younger than 15 years (this group made up 31% of all women working few hours), and three-quarters of these did not want to work more hours, suggesting that many of these women were combining work with caring for children, and had a partner's income to supplement their own. Another 6% of women working 1-7 hours per week were single parents with children, and over half (52%) of these women would have preferred to work more hours.

The third largest group of women, after the group above and dependent students, usually working 1-7 hours per week was 'spouse/partner with no children' (14%). About 64% of women in this group were 55 years or older.

Men

After dependent students, the second largest group of men usually working 1-7 hours per week was those who had a partner but no children (15% of the 114,400 men usually working 1-7 hours per week were in this situation). Most of these men (86%) were 55 years or older. 'Non-dependent child' was the third largest group for males, accounting for 7% of those working 1-7 hours per week in November 2004 (**end note 4**). Unlike women, the proportion of all men working 1-7 hours per week who had a partner and children was relatively low (4%).

6. People who usually work part-time, By sex and relationship in household - Nov 2004

	People who usually work 1-7 hours per week			People who usually work 8-34 hours per week		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
People who usually work part-time						
People (no.)	114,349.7	255,290	369,640	718,096	1,783,953	2,502,049
People who would prefer to work more hours (no.)	43,773	79,704	123,477	236,668	381,435	618,102
Proportion who would prefer to work more hours (%)	38.3	31.2	33.4	33.0	21.4	24.7
Proportion of all people usually working 1-7 or 8-34 hours (%)						
Relationship in household(a)						
Spouse or partner with						
Children under 15 years	4.1	30.6	22.4	14.7	31.6	26.8
No children under 15 years, but with dependent students	*2.1	2.2	2.2	3.0	5.8	5.0
No dependants but with children aged 15 years or older	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.6	5.8	5.2
No children	14.9	14.0	14.3	19.8	18.9	19.1
Single parent with						
Children under 15 years	*0.9	6.4	4.7	1.4	6.3	4.9
No children under 15 years, but with dependent students	* -	*0.7	*0.5	*0.2	1.1	0.9
No dependants but with children aged 15 years or over	*0.4	*1.0	*0.8	0.7	1.6	1.3
Other						
Dependent student	48.0	25.5	32.4	18.3	10.2	12.5
Non-dependent child	6.8	2.8	4.1	14.5	6.5	8.8
Other relative	1.5	1.3	1.4	2.1	1.2	1.5
Non-family member not living alone	6.4	2.1	3.4	8.5	2.8	4.5
Person living alone	6.3	4.9	5.4	8.5	4.7	5.7
Relationship not determined	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.8	3.6	3.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Proportion of those usually working 1-7 or 8-34 hours who would prefer to work more hours (%)						
Relationship in household(a)						
Spouse or partner with						
Children under 15 years	*63.1	25.1	27.2	35.1	13.3	16.8
No children under 15 years, but with dependent students	*44.2	*34.6	*37.5	35.5	15.0	18.6
No dependants but with children aged 15 years or older	*39.8	*9.4	*18.5	28.3	12.6	15.7
No children	26.2	22.1	23.4	25.5	19.1	21.0
Single parent with						
Children under 15 years	*100.0	51.9	54.8	45.4	28.8	30.2
No children under 15 years, but with dependent students	* -	*83.1	*83.1	*43.9	37.0	37.4
No dependants but with children aged 15 years or over	* -	*25.0	*21.5	*41.5	31.5	33.0
Other						
Dependent student	33.6	33.2	33.4	21.5	22.7	22.2
Non-dependent child	68.5	74.1	71.2	54.1	48.2	51.0
Other relative	*10.1	*39.7	*29.9	41.7	38.6	39.9
Non-family member not living alone	*55.2	*28.2	43.8	31.6	32.0	31.8
Person living alone	*41.1	38.2	39.2	33.2	31.5	32.2
Relationship not determined	*28.2	*37.0	34.1	32.1	26.4	28.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) See Glossary for definitions of relationship in household.
Labour Force Survey.

OCCUPATION

In November 2004, the occupations that had the highest proportions of people working 1-7 hours per week were the clerical, sales and service worker occupations, and labourers and related workers. These were also the occupations with the highest proportions of people working part-time. Generally occupations with a high concentration of people working few hours per week were those which required lower levels of educational qualifications (**end note 5**). About 11% of people working as elementary clerical, sales and service workers were working 1-7 hours per week, while 64% of people working in this occupation were part-time workers.

7. Proportion of part-time workers in each occupation - Nov 2004



Source: Labour Force Survey.

People working 1-7 hours per week were concentrated in the retail trade industry (28% of people working 1-7 hours were in this industry), followed by property and business services (12%) and accommodation, cafes and restaurants (10%).

Older people

While people working few hours were generally concentrated in the clerical, sales and service worker occupations, the main occupations of older people (people aged 55 years or older) working few hours were slightly different. In November 2004, 20% of people aged 55 years or older and working 1-7 hours per week were working as professionals (27% of men; 16% of women). The next most likely occupation for people working few hours in this age group was 'labourers and related workers' (about 14%), followed by advanced clerical and service workers (also 14%).

Older people tended to account for relatively large proportions of those who were working part-time hours in the 'managers and administrators' and 'professionals' occupations. This may be due to the fact that some people take up consultancy jobs after retiring from full-time jobs. In November 2004, the number of people working 1-7 hours as managers and administrators was relatively small (about 10,000 people) and over half (55%) of these people were aged 55 years or older. About 29% of 'professionals' working 1-7 hours were also in this age group.

8. People who usually work 1-7 hours per week(a), By occupation and sex - Nov 2004

	Males			Females			Total		
	15-24 years	25-54 years	55 years or older	15-24 years	25-54 years	55 years or older	15-24 years	25-54 years	55 years or older
Occupation (%)									
Managers and administrators	* -	*2.8	*4.8	*0.1	*3.1	*10.6	*0.1	3.1	8.4
Professionals	*2.7	*19.8	26.9	*3.9	18.0	15.5	3.3	18.2	19.9
Associate professionals	*4.7	*8.6	*13.8	*4.2	9.5	*7.3	4.4	9.4	9.8
Tradespersons and related workers	*1.6	*12.7	*7.3	*0.7	*2.1	*3.6	*1.1	3.4	*5.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	*0.4	* -	*6.3	*0.6	18.1	19.0	*0.5	15.9	14.1
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	11.6	*8.5	*3.5	26.3	21.6	16.8	19.8	20.0	11.6
Intermediate production and transport workers	13.1	*8.5	*7.9	*1.7	*0.8	*0.4	6.7	*1.8	*3.4
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	39.3	*13.4	*14.6	53.5	13.4	12.7	47.2	13.4	13.5
Labourers and related workers	26.7	25.7	*14.9	9.1	13.3	14.0	16.8	14.9	14.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
People (no.)	70,699	18,011	25,640	89,372	125,906	40,013	160,070	143,917	65,653

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) 1-7 hours per week.
Labour Force Survey.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

In 2002-03, in 78% of households where a person usually worked 1-7 hours per week, there was at least one other person who was employed.

In about nine out of ten households where there was only one person employed and that person was working few hours, the principal source of income for the household was something other than wages and salaries. In 2002-03 the principal source of income for most of these

households (72%) was government pensions and allowances. In contrast, in almost nine out of ten households (86%) where at least one other person was employed, wages and salaries was the principal source of income. Most people who work 1-7 hours are therefore relying on either government pensions and allowances or the wages and salaries of others in the household as their principal source of income.

Table 9 shows equivalised disposable (after tax) household income quintiles for those working few hours in 2002-03. This measure is adjusted to standardise income estimates with respect to household size and composition. In 2002-03, most households (about 82%), where only one person was employed and that person usually worked 1-7 hours per week, were in the bottom two income quintiles.

Households where more than one person was employed, at least one of whom was working 1-7 hours per week, were concentrated in the second, third and fourth disposable household income quintiles. Over one in four (28%) households with more than one person employed and a person working 1-7 hours per week were in the second highest disposable household income quintile.

9. Income quintiles, Households where someone usually works 1-7 hours per week - 2002-03

	Equivalised disposable household income quintile					
	Lowest %	Second %	Third %	Fourth %	Highest %	Total %
Households where only one person is employed, and that person usually works 1-7 hours per week	49.3	32.5	*14.7	**3.5	-	100.0
Households where two or more people are employed, and at least one person usually works 1-7 hours per week	12.1	21.5	23.1	28.1	15.3	100.0
All households	24.3	18.3	17.9	18.4	21.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

Survey of Income and Housing Costs, 2002-2003.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about statistics on people working less than 35 hours per week in Australia, please contact the Assistant Director, Labour Supply on Canberra (02) 6252 6562.

For email enquiries please contact Client Services on client.services@abs.gov.au

END NOTES

1. People employed part-time are those employed people who usually worked less than 35 hours a week in all jobs and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week. For the purposes of this article, all people who usually worked less than 35 hours a week are considered to be part-time, even if they worked more than 35 hours a week in the reference period. < Back

2. These data come from the Underemployed Workers Survey, not the Labour Force Survey, and therefore have a different reference period to the rest of the data in this article. < Back

3. **Dependent students** are those who are 15-24 years of age, attending full-time education, and have no partner or child of their own usually resident in the same household. < Back

4. A **non-dependent child** is a child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, aged over 15 years and who is not a dependent student aged 15-24 years, and who has no partner or child of their own usually resident in the household. < Back

5. See the **Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition** (cat. no. 1220.0) for information about the skill levels required for different occupations. < Back

Health, disability, age and labour force participation (Feature Article)

Feature Article: Health, disability, age and labour force participation

INTRODUCTION

Participating in the labour force is a way of contributing to society and maintaining financial independence. There is often a close relationship between a person's health status and participation in the labour force. A person may be limited by a pre-existing health condition, and so be unable to physically look for work or locate a job that could accommodate their health needs. A previously healthy employee may find that they are unable to continue their work due to a worsening health complaint. Being outside the labour force may have a negative impact on a person's health.

This paper explores the links between health and disability, age, and labour force participation.

HEALTH STATUS AND LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

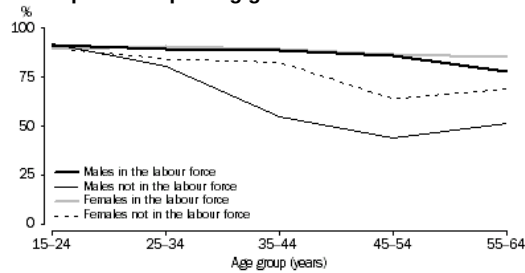
In general, a higher proportion of long-term medical conditions and disability are associated with age (**end note 1, end note 2**). The self-assessed health status of people in the labour force also follows this pattern. Self-assessed health status refers to a person's general assessment of their own health against a 5 point scale (excellent, very good, good, fair or poor health) (**end note 1**).

For those in the labour force, a relatively high proportion report having good or better health, although this proportion declines with age. For

example, results from the 2001 National Health Survey (NHS) show that 92% of males and 89% of females in the labour force aged 15 to 24 years reported good or better health compared with 79% of males and 85% of females aged 55 to 64 years who were in the labour force.

While both older and younger people who are participating in the labour force enjoy relatively good health, the self-reported health status of those who are not in the labour force tends to be lower for older people. This difference is particularly pronounced for males.

1. Proportion reporting good or better health - 2001

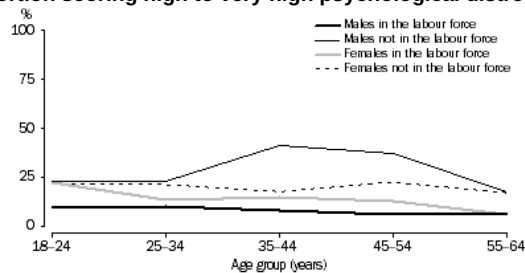


Source: ABS 2001 National Health Survey

Psychological well-being is also associated with labour force participation. In the 2001 NHS, psychological distress was measured using the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale 10 (K10) (a scale of non-specific psychological distress based on 10 questions about negative emotional states in the 4 weeks prior to interview) (**end note 1**).

While the overall proportion of women who report high to very high psychological distress is higher than that for men, this problem tends to particularly affect men who are not in the labour force. For example, 41% of 35 to 44 year old men who were not currently in the labour force reported high to very high psychological distress compared with 18% of their female counterparts. The reasons behind these results reflect a complex interaction of factors. It may be that those with high to very high psychological distress find it difficult to enter the labour force. At the same time, not being in the labour force may contribute to psychological distress.

2. Proportion scoring high to very high psychological distress - 2001



Source: ABS 2001 National Health Survey

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

While older people who are not in the labour force are more likely to have a poor self-assessed health status than those in the labour force, this difference is more pronounced for males than females. For example, the 2001 NHS showed that, of 45 to 54 year old men, 44% who were not in the labour force said they had good or better health, compared with 64% of their female counterparts.

Males who are not in the labour force are also more likely to have a disability, and their likelihood of having a disability increases with age. As reported in the 2003 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC), a person is considered to have a disability if they have a limitation, restriction or impairment that has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months, and restricts everyday activities.

People with a specific restriction or limitation may have both a core activity limitation (relating to self care, mobility and communication) and/or a schooling or employment restriction (**end note 3**). The 2003 SDAC reported that, for males aged 45 to 54 years, 12% of those in the labour force had a specific restriction or limitation, compared with 67% who were not in the labour force.

Females who were not in the labour force also had higher specific restriction or limitation rates compared with those who were in the labour force. However, this pattern was somewhat less pronounced when compared with men. For example, women aged 45 to 54 years who were currently working or looking for work had a specific restriction or limitation rate similar to that of their male counterparts (12%). However, for those women not in the labour force, a somewhat lower proportion had a specific restriction or limitation (38%) when compared with men (67%).

This suggests that the existence of a disability may be a common reason for men not participating in the labour force. The 2003 Survey of Persons Not in the Labour Force (PNILF) found that, for males aged 25 to 54 years, disability, illness or injury were the main reasons for not working or looking for work, with 46% of males in that age group reporting these reasons for not participating in the labour force (**end note 4**).

3. Disability, Proportion with a specific restriction or limitation - 2003



Sources: ABS 2003 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

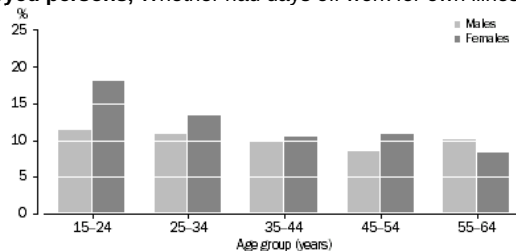
While disability, illness and injury were the main reasons given for men not participating in the labour force, health and disability status are less strongly linked to women's labour force participation rates, as women tend to have other reasons for not participating in the labour force. Results from the 2003 PNILF show that 76% of women aged 25 to 54 years reported not working or looking for work because they were undertaking home duties or childcare, and only 9% because of their own disability, illness or injury (**end note 4**).

In recognition of the difficulties that many people with a disability face in entering and remaining in the labour force, governments and community groups have developed a range of services and policies to assist those with disabilities to find and maintain work. These include promoting the concept of equal opportunity, supported by anti-discrimination laws such as the **Disability Discrimination Act 1992**; (**end note 5**) the Employer Incentives Strategy with its incentives such as providing funding towards modifications in the workplace, the wage subsidy scheme and the supported wage system; and Disability Employment Services which assist people with moderate to severe disabilities to find and keep work. This assistance includes providing supported employment for those with moderate to severe disabilities in business services which provide support for employees and their families and assist people with disabilities to participate in the community (**end note 6**).

TIME OFF WORK DUE TO ILLNESS

While rates of people with a disability, or who report fair or poor health, increase more markedly with age for those not in the labour force, this pattern still occurs for those in the labour force. It might be expected that declining health as people age could increase the likelihood of taking sick leave for those in the older age groups. However, this is not the case. The proportion of people taking sick leave remains relatively stable with age for employed males, and decreases slightly with age for employed females.

4. Employed persons, Whether had days off work for own illness(a) - 2001



(a) Had days off work for own illness in the two weeks prior to interview.
Source: ABS 2001 National Health Survey

CONCLUSION

There is a strong link between health and labour force participation. For those not in the labour force, there are higher proportions of people with disabilities, and lower proportions of people with self-assessed good or better health, when compared with those who are working or looking for work. This pattern becomes more pronounced as people age, and is more obvious for males than for females. High to very high psychological distress is especially evident for middle aged males who are not participating in the labour force.

END NOTES

1. ABS, **National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 2001** (cat. no. 4364.0). [Back](#)
2. ABS, **Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2003** (cat. no. 4430.0). [Back](#)
3. ABS, **Australian Labour Market Statistics, October 2004** (cat. no. 6105.0). [Back](#)
4. ABS, **Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 2003** (cat. no. 6220.0). [Back](#)
5. Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) 2005. Last viewed 16/02/2005 [Back](#)
6. Family and Community Services (FACS) 2005. Last viewed 16/02/2005 [Back](#)

Spotlight: Methods of setting pay (Feature Article)

Feature Article: Spotlight: Methods of setting pay

INTRODUCTION

The last decade has seen a move away from a centralised system of awards to set pay levels and increases, towards agreements at the enterprise, workplace and individual levels. Information on how employees' pay is set has been collected since 2000 in the biennial Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours (EEH). This article uses estimates from the 2000, 2002 and 2004 surveys to compare how methods of setting pay have changed over time. It also discusses sector and occupation differences in the methods used to set pay in May 2004.

METHODS OF SETTING PAY

Three different methods of setting pay are identified in the EEH: awards, collective agreements and individual arrangements.

Awards are legally enforceable determinations made by federal or state industrial tribunals that set the terms of employment (pay and conditions) usually in a particular industry or occupation. Employees whose pay is set by 'award only' are those who are covered by awards and who are paid at the rate of pay specified in the award. In May 2004, 20.0% of employees had their pay set by 'award only'. This represents a decrease from previous years (20.5% in 2002 and 23.2% in 2000).

Collective agreements, which include enterprise and workplace agreements, are agreements between an employer (or group of employers) and a group of employees (or one or more unions or employee associations representing the employees). Collective agreements set the terms of employment (pay and conditions) for a group of employees, and are usually registered with a state or federal industrial tribunal or authority. In May 2004, 41% of employees had their pay set by a collective agreement, compared to 38% in 2002 and 37% in 2000.

Individual arrangements are arrangements between an employer and an individual employee on the terms of employment (pay and conditions) for the employee. Employees whose pay is set through an individual arrangement include those whose pay is set by an individual contract, registered individual agreement (e.g. Australian Workplace Agreement), or common law contract, as well as employees receiving overaward payments by individual agreement, and working proprietors of incorporated businesses. In May 2004, 39% of employees had their pay set by individual arrangement, compared to 41% in 2002 and 40% in 2000.

1. METHODS OF SETTING PAY

	Award only %	Collective agreement %	Individual arrangement %
May 2000	23.2	36.8	40.0
May 2002	20.5	38.2	41.3
May 2004	20.0	40.9	39.1

Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia (cat. no. 6306.0).

SECTOR

Overall, the private sector tends to have more diverse methods of setting pay than the public sector. In May 2004, 41% of all private sector employees had their pay set by registered or unregistered individual arrangements. A further 27% of private sector employees had their pay set by collective agreements, 25% by award only and 7% were working proprietors in their own incorporated business. In contrast, the majority of public sector employees had their pay set by collective agreements (92%).

2. METHODS OF SETTING PAY, By sector - May 2004

	Collective agreement			Individual arrangement			Working proprietor of incorporated business(a)	Total	All methods of setting pay
	Award only %	Registered %	Unregistered %	Registered %	Unregistered(a) %	Unregistered(a) %			
Males									
Private sector	19.0	23.3	3.6	3.0	41.7		9.5	54.2	100.0
Public sector	*0.7	90.7	*0.6	3.0	5.0		..	8.0	100.0
All sectors	15.7	35.2	3.0	3.0	35.2		7.8	46.0	100.0
Females									
Private sector	31.0	25.2	2.8	2.2	34.9		3.9	41.0	100.0
Public sector	*3.5	92.6	*0.2	0.9	2.8		..	3.7	100.0
All sectors	24.4	41.4	2.2	1.9	27.2		2.9	32.0	100.0
Persons									
Private sector	24.7	24.2	3.2	2.6	38.5		6.9	47.9	100.0
Public sector	*2.3	91.8	0.4	1.8	3.7		..	5.5	100.0
All sectors	20.0	38.3	2.6	2.4	31.2		5.4	39.1	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

.. not applicable

(a) Prior to 2004, working proprietors of incorporated businesses were classified to unregistered individual arrangements.

Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, May 2004 (cat. no. 6306.0).

OCCUPATION

In May 2004, Advanced clerical and service workers and Managers and administrators had the highest proportion of employees who had their pay set through a registered or unregistered individual arrangement (52% and 47% respectively). A further 27% of Managers and administrators were working proprietors of their own incorporated business. Awards were far more prevalent in the lower skilled occupations, with 40% of Elementary clerical, sales and service workers and 38% of Labourers and related workers having their pay set by Award only. In contrast, only 1% of Managers and administrators, 7% of Professionals and 8% of Associate professionals had their pay set by Award only. Collective agreements were most prevalent for Professionals (56%) and Intermediate production and transport workers (50%).

3. METHODS OF SETTING PAY, By occupation - May 2004

	Award only %	Collective agreement(a) %	Individual Arrangement		Total %	All methods of setting pay %
			Registered or unregistered(b) %	Working proprietor of incorporated business(b) %		
Managers and administrators	0.8	25.3	47.3	26.7	73.9	100.0
Professionals	6.7	55.8	32.8	4.7	37.4	100.0
Associate professionals	8.3	40.0	42.6	9.1	51.7	100.0
Tradespersons and related workers	22.5	34.6	35.2	7.7	42.9	100.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	8.2	30.2	51.8	9.8	61.6	100.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	25.8	38.3	34.6	1.2	35.9	100.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	17.3	50.0	29.9	2.9	32.7	100.0
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	39.9	37.1	21.8	*1.2	23.0	100.0
Labourers and related workers	37.9	36.8	24.5	*0.8	25.2	100.0
All occupations	20.0	40.9	33.7	5.4	39.1	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes registered and unregistered collective agreements.

(b) Prior to 2004, working proprietors of incorporated businesses were classified to unregistered individual arrangements.
Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, May 2004 (cat. no. 6306.0).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be found in **Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, May 2004 (cat. no. 6306.0)**, which was released on 23 March 2005. The publication provides statistics on the composition and distribution of earnings and hours of employees, and how their pay is set. For information about these and related statistics please contact the Assistant Director on Perth (08) 9360 5305 or the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

For email enquiries please contact Client Services on client.services@abs.gov.au.

Spotlight: Annual measures of labour underutilisation (Feature Article)

Feature Article: Spotlight: Annual measures of labour underutilisation

INTRODUCTION

The extent to which the labour supply is used is an important issue from both economic and social perspectives. From an economic perspective, interest has been focussed on the amount of spare capacity in the labour supply. From a social viewpoint, there is a concern that people whose aspirations for work are not being met may suffer financial hardship.

The ABS produces a range of supplementary measures of labour underutilisation that include groups of people such as the unemployed, the underemployed and discouraged jobseekers. Headcount measures of labour underutilisation are based on the number of people whose labour is underutilised. These measures provide an indication of the proportion of the labour force affected by labour underutilisation. The ABS has also developed experimental volume measures of labour underutilisation, based on the number of hours of available labour that are unutilised.

In the July 2004 issue of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** these measures were explained in detail in an article '**Labour underutilisation**'. Here the measures of labour underutilisation are updated for the reference period September 2004.

HEADCOUNT MEASURES OF LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION

With the exception of the underemployment rate, which remained at 5.6%, the rates of labour underutilisation declined between September 2003 and September 2004. The labour force underutilisation rate (which is obtained by adding the unemployment rate and the underemployment rate) was 11.1% in September 2004, down from 11.5% in the previous year. The extended labour force underutilisation rate (which also includes some of those marginally attached to the labour force) was 12.2% at September 2004, down from 12.5% in September 2003.

Overall, women have a higher rate of labour force underutilisation than men (12.7% for women, compared with 9.8% for men in 2004). This is due to women's higher rate of underemployment, which, in turn, is related to the larger proportion of women who are in part-time employment.

1. Headcount Measures of Labour Underutilisation

	September 2003			September 2004		
	Males %	Females %	Persons %	Males %	Females %	Persons %
Long-term unemployment rate	1.5	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.2
Unemployment rate	5.7	6.0	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.5
Underemployment rate	4.1	7.4	5.6	4.3	7.2	5.6
Labour force underutilisation rate	9.8	13.4	11.5	9.8	12.7	11.1
Extended labour force underutilisation rate	10.5	14.9	12.5	10.5	14.1	12.2

Labour Force, Australia, September 2004 (cat. no. 6202.0); Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 2004 (cat. no. 6220.0); Underemployed Workers, Australia, September 2004 (cat. no. 6265.0).

Movement in unemployment is the primary driver of movements in the headcount measures. Levels of unemployment, and the unemployment rate, fluctuate with the economic cycle. The unemployment rate decreased from 9.0% in September 1994 to 5.5% in September 2004 and this decline is reflected in the labour force underutilisation rate and the extended labour force underutilisation rate over the same period (see graph in the **Labour Market Summary** of this publication 'Labour Underutilisation Rates - 1994-2004').

EXPERIMENTAL VOLUME MEASURES OF LABOUR FORCE UNDERUTILISATION

Labour underutilisation can also be measured in terms of the number of hours of available labour in the economy that are not utilised. Unlike the headcount measures, the volume measures take into account the number of hours offered or sought by individuals and this has the effect of weighting people according to the number of hours of work they either worked or sought. The volume underemployment rate is considerably lower than the volume unemployment rate, even though the headcount measures are of a similar magnitude. This is because the additional hours sought by the underemployed are far fewer than the hours sought by the unemployed (on average 15 and 30 hours, respectively).

2. Experimental volume measures of Labour Underutilisation - September 2004

	Males %	Females %	Persons %
Volume unemployment rate	4.3	4.7	4.4
Volume underemployment rate	1.7	3.2	2.3
Volume labour force underutilisation rate	6.1	7.9	6.8

Labour Force, Australia, September 2004 (cat. no. 6202.0); Job Search Experience, Australia, July 2004 (ABS cat. no. 6222.0); Underemployed Workers, Australia, September 2004 (ABS cat. no. 6265.0)

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The ABS is continuing to develop both the headcount and volume measures of labour underutilisation. Within the next year ABS plans to introduce a quarterly series of the (headcount) labour force underutilisation rate and to further develop the experimental volume measure of labour force underutilisation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the concepts behind the volume measures, see the '**Labour underutilisation**' article in the July 2004 issue of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0). For further information, please contact the Assistant Director, Labour Market Statistics Section on Canberra (02) 6252 5603.

For email enquiries please contact Client Services on client.services@abs.gov.au.

DATA AVAILABLE IN SPREADSHEETS

The headcount measures are presented in tables 4.1 and 4.2 of this publication. A spreadsheet containing the headcount measures is available from the ABS web site. Follow the link to [AusStats - Publications and Data], then [Data cubes]. The spreadsheet is listed as Table 1 under catalogue number 6105.0.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 Australian Labour Market Statistics brings together a range of ABS labour statistics to present a statistical summary of the Australian labour market. It has been developed primarily as a reference document, and provides a broad basis for labour analysis and research.

2 In addition to data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), this publication contains statistics from a range of other ABS labour surveys including Average Weekly Earnings, the Labour Price Index, Job Vacancies, Employment and Earnings - Public Sector, and Industrial Disputes. The publication also includes summary data from recently released labour force supplementary surveys.

3 This publication includes international data for selected labour market indicators.

LABOUR STATISTICS CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

4 The concepts and definitions underpinning ABS labour statistics align closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's labour market statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates, are presented in **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), which is available on the ABS web site at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Themes - People - Labour - **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods**].

5 For an explanation of terms used in this publication, refer to the Glossary.

LABOUR STATISTICS THEME PAGE

6 The Labour Statistics theme page is a portal to all labour statistics and related information residing on the ABS web site. The page contains hyperlinks to **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001); information about labour related surveys; and a help page for respondents to ABS labour related surveys. The Labour Theme Page can be accessed at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Themes - People - Labour].

TREND ESTIMATES

7 Series in this publication include **original** and **trend** series. Special care should be taken in interpreting data for the most recent months and quarters, as some of the original and all of the trend series are subject to revision.

8 It is not uncommon for movements in original time series data and those provided from trend series to differ. Movements in a time series of original data may reflect several factors, including:

- longer-term changes in the item being measured (i.e. trend movements)
- short-term irregular changes
- regular seasonal influences
- normal 'trading', 'working' or 'pay' day patterns
- systematic holiday effects.

9 Trend estimates help the user to identify the underlying magnitude and direction of a time series. Seasonal adjustment removes the effect of the last three listed influences from the data, leaving only trend and short-term irregular movements. Trend estimates are then obtained by removing the effects of the short-term irregularities, which in some series can be a major contributor to movements in the original data.

10 Trend estimates are produced by smoothing the seasonally adjusted series using a statistical procedure based on Henderson moving averages. At each time point in a series, a trend estimate is calculated using a centred x-term Henderson moving average of the seasonally adjusted series. The moving averages are centred on the point in time at which the trend is being estimated. The number of terms used to calculate the trend varies across surveys. Generally, ABS monthly surveys use a 13-term moving average and quarterly surveys use a 7-term moving average.

11 Estimates for the most recent time points cannot be calculated using the centred average method as there are insufficient data to do so. Instead, alternative approaches that approximate the smoothing properties of the Henderson moving average are used. This can lead to revision in the trend estimates for the most recent time periods until sufficient data are available to calculate the trend using the centred Henderson moving average. Revisions of trend estimates will also occur with revisions to the original data and re-estimation of seasonal adjustment factors.

12 Seasonal factors are reviewed at least annually for ABS labour series, to take account of additional original data. The results of the latest reviews were used to compile the trend estimates given in this publication. For further information about the most recent reviews of seasonal factors for the labour surveys, see the following publications:

- for labour force see **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0)
- for labour price index see **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0)
- for average weekly earnings see **Average Weekly Earnings, Australia** (cat. no. 6302.0)
- for public sector employees see **Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia** (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001)
- for job vacancies see **Job Vacancies, Australia** (cat. no. 6354.0).

13 The general methods used in the ABS for estimating trends are described in **Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends** (cat. no. 1349.0).

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

14 Estimates in this publication are subject to two types of error:

- sampling error - errors that occur because the data were obtained from a sample rather than the entire population
- non-sampling error - errors that occur at any stage of a survey and can also occur in a census, e.g. incorrect responses to questions, processing errors, frame deficiencies.

15 For more information on these sources of error, and on measures of these types of errors, including standard errors, refer to the main publications associated with each of the data series presented in this publication (see the relevant sections later in these Explanatory Notes). More information on standard errors applying to LFS estimates is contained in **Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Standard Errors** (cat. no. 6298.0).

ROUNDING

16 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

Description of the survey

17 Data in tables 1.1-1.7, 2.1-2.10, 3.1-3.3, 4.3 and 4.4 are obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which provides extensive information about the labour market on a monthly basis. The LFS is a component of the Monthly Population Survey (MPS), which includes the LFS and supplementary surveys.

Monthly Population Survey

18 The MPS is a population survey based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (currently about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.), and list samples of discrete Indigenous communities and non-private dwellings (hospitals, hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about 0.5% of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from occupants of selected dwellings by interviewers, with the first interview conducted face-to-face and subsequent interviews over the telephone. Once selected, households are included for eight consecutive months before being replaced.

Labour Force Survey

19 The LFS has been conducted on a monthly basis since February 1978. Prior to that, from 1964 to 1978, a national survey was conducted quarterly. Telephone interviewing was introduced between August 1996 and February 1997. New questionnaires have been introduced periodically, most recently in April 2001.

20 The LFS includes all usual residents of Australia aged 15 and over except:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

21 From July 1993, Jervis Bay Territory has been excluded from the scope of the LFS.

Supplementary surveys

22 The supplementary surveys collect additional data on a different topic each month. Many topics covered are rotated on an annual or less frequent basis, while others are included once only. Results from each supplementary survey topic are released separately. A list of topics covered in recent years is in Appendix 3.

23 Tables 4.1 and 4.2 contain data from the annual supplementary surveys Underemployed Workers and Persons Not in the Labour Force. These tables are updated annually.

24 The supplementary surveys include a subset of the persons included in the LFS (see paragraph 20). The additional exclusions for most supplementary surveys are:

- persons living in private dwellings in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia
- institutionalised persons
- boarding school pupils.

Reference period

25 Interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month, with questions relating to the week prior to the interview (the reference week).

Notes on data

26 From time to time, changes to survey methodology affect the time series produced. Some examples of changes to this survey are: new

questions added to the LFS questionnaire in April 2001; and the introduction of telephone interviewing in 1996-97.

27 In February 2004 the definition of unemployed persons was changed to include all persons who were waiting to start work and were available to start in the reference week, with consequent revisions to data from April 2001 to January 2004. For further details, see **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics** (cat. no. 6292.0).

Population benchmarks

28 LFS estimates of persons employed, unemployed and not in the labour force are calculated in such a way as to add up to independently estimated counts (benchmarks) of the civilian population aged 15 years and over. These benchmarks are based on census data adjusted for under-enumeration and updated for births, deaths, interstate migration, and net permanent and long-term migration. This procedure compensates for under-enumeration in the survey, and leads to more reliable estimates.

29 From February 2004, labour force estimates have been compiled using benchmarks based on the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Revisions were made to historical estimates from January 1999 to January 2004. These revisions affect original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. The next revision is scheduled for February 2009 to take account of the results from the 2006 census.

Families series

30 Family relationship is not determined for all households and persons in scope of the LFS. This is due to a number of factors related to the scope and coverage of the LFS, as well as difficulties in determining family structure and characteristics. The survey questions used to determine family relationships are restricted to persons enumerated as usual residents of private dwellings. That is, the following persons are excluded:

- all persons enumerated in non-private dwellings (including hotels, motels, hospitals and other institutions)
- persons enumerated as visitors to (rather than usual residents of) private dwellings.

31 In addition, in those households where it is not possible to obtain information relating to all the usual residents, no family information is recorded. Thus, persons living in households that include a member of the permanent defence forces, who is outside the scope of the LFS, are excluded from survey questions used to determine family relationships. This also applies to households that, at the time of the survey, had one or more of their usual residents away for more than six weeks, and households from which an incomplete or inadequate questionnaire was obtained for any usual resident in scope of the survey.

Further information and data on the LFS

32 LFS estimates are published monthly in **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0). A series of time series spreadsheets are released at the same time as this publication under cat. no. 6202.0.55.001. More detailed estimates are released, in electronic format, one week later, under cat. no. 6291.0.55.001. All electronic data can be accessed via the ABS web site at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>>. Additional data are available on request.

33 For further information about the range of LFS products and services, and the concepts and methodology used in the LFS, refer to **Information Paper: Changes to Labour Force Survey Products** (cat. no. 6297.0), **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Assistant Director, Labour Force Survey on Canberra (02) 6252 6565.

EMPLOYER SURVEY DATA

34 Tables 2.11, 5.1-5.3, 6.1-6.2 and 7.1 of this publication contain data from ABS employer surveys.

Scope of employer surveys

35 Except where otherwise noted, the sample for ABS labour employer surveys is selected from the ABS Business Register, which is primarily based on registrations to the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Pay As You Go Withholding scheme. The population is updated quarterly to take account of new businesses, business that have ceased employing, changes in employment levels, changes in industry, and other general business changes. Businesses excluded from the scope of the employer surveys are:

- those primarily engaged in Agriculture, forestry and fishing (except for the Survey of Employment and Earnings)
- private households employing staff
- overseas embassies, consulates, etc.
- those located outside Australia.

JOB VACANCIES DATA

36 Table 7.1 contains data from the Job Vacancies Survey (JVS).

Description of the survey

37 The current Job Vacancies Survey has been conducted since November 1983 and is a quarterly sample survey of approximately 4,600 employers. The survey produces estimates of the number of job vacancies in Australia.

Reference date

38 The reference date for the survey is the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter.

Notes on data

39 Prior to the August quarter 1999, job vacancies statistics were collected as part of the Job Vacancies and Overtime Survey. The overtime component of the survey ceased following the May quarter 1999.

Further information

40 For further information about the range of products and services relating to ABS job vacancies statistics, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Job Vacancies, Australia** (cat. no. 6354.0), **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS web site, or contact the Manager, Job Vacancies Survey on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES DATA

Description of the survey

41 Data in table 2.11 are obtained from a quarterly survey of public sector businesses: the Survey of Employment and Earnings - Public Sector (SEE). This survey has been conducted on a quarterly basis since the September quarter 1983. The survey measures both the number of public sector wage and salary earners employed in the middle month of each quarter and their total quarterly earnings.

Reference period

42 The reference period for employees is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. The reference period for gross earnings is all pay periods which end within the quarter.

Notes on data

43 The private sector component of the Survey of Employment and Earnings was discontinued after the December quarter 2001.

Further information

44 For further information about the range of products and services relating to public service employees, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia** (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001), **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Manager, Survey of Employment and Earnings, Public Sector on Perth (08) 9360 3141.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS DATA

45 Table 5.2 contains data from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE).

Description of the survey

46 The Survey of Average Weekly Earnings has been conducted quarterly since August 1981. Approximately 4,700 businesses contribute to the survey each quarter. The purpose of the survey is to measure average gross weekly earnings per employee job in Australia.

47 Average weekly earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. Changes in the averages may be affected not only by changes in the level of earnings of employees but also by changes in the overall composition of the wage and salary earner segment of the labour force.

Reference period

48 The reference period for the survey is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. For non-weekly payrolls, businesses are asked to provide one week's portion.

Further information

49 For further information about the range of products and services relating to average weekly earnings refer to **Average Weekly Earnings, Australia** (cat. no. 6302.0), **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS web site, or contact the Manager, Survey of Average Weekly Earnings on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

WAGE PRICE INDEX DATA

50 Table 5.1 contains data from the **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0) publication.

Description of the survey

51 The Labour Price Index measure changes in the price of labour services resulting from market pressures, and is unaffected by changes in the quality or quantity of work performed. i.e. it is unaffected by changes in the composition of the labour force, hours worked, or changes in characteristics of employees (e.g. work performance). Information about the wage price indexes has been released for each quarter since September 1997. Approximately 20,000 matched jobs from 4,800 businesses are priced each quarter.

Reference period

52 The reference period for the survey is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the mid-month of the quarter.

Further information

53 For further information about the range of products and services relating to the Wage Price Index, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0), **Labour Price Index, Statistics Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6351.0.55.001), the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS web site, or contact the Assistant Manager, Labour Price Index on Perth (08) 9360 5151.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES DATA

54 Tables 6.1 and 6.2 contain data from the Industrial Disputes collection.

Description of the survey

55 The ABS has been collecting information about industrial disputes since 1913. The Industrial Disputes collection produces estimates of the number of industrial disputes (where ten or more working days are lost), employees involved, and working days lost.

56 The scope of the Industrial Disputes collection is restricted to employing businesses at which an industrial dispute has occurred. For this collection, industrial disputes are defined as work stoppages of ten working days or more. Ten working days are equivalent to the amount of ordinary time worked by ten people in one day, regardless of the length of the stoppage, e.g. 3,000 workers on strike for two hours would be counted as 750 working days lost (assuming they work an eight-hour day).

57 Effects on other establishments not directly involved in the dispute, such as stand-downs because of lack of materials, disruption of transport services, power cuts, etc. are not included in the scope of this collection.

Reference period

58 The collection reference period is the calendar quarter.

Further information

59 For further information about the range of products and services relating to ABS industrial disputes statistics, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to the electronic publication **Industrial Disputes, Australia** (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001) and the associated time series spreadsheets, available from the ABS web site, **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), or contact the Manager, Industrial Disputes on Perth (08) 9360 5159.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS DATA

60 Table 5.3 contains data from the Australian National Accounts.

61 Estimates of compensation of employees are contained within the Income Accounts of the Australian National Accounts, which are published in **Australian System of National Accounts** (cat. no. 5204.0) and **Australian Economic Indicators** (cat. no. 1350.0). For further information on how estimates are obtained, see **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0).

INTERNATIONAL DATA

62 Table 1.8 contains data from the International Labour Organisation.

63 Estimates of key indicators of the labour markets from various countries have been included for comparison with Australian estimates of labour force participation, employment, unemployment and unemployment rates.

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Active steps to find work

Includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering an advertisement for a job; checking factory noticeboards or the touchscreens at Centrelink offices; being registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.

Actual hours worked

The hours actually worked during the reference week, not necessarily hours paid for.

Adult employees

Adult employees are those employees 21 years of age or over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the full adult rate for their occupation.

Aggregate (actual) hours worked

The total number of hours a group of employed persons has actually worked during the reference week, not necessarily hours paid for.

Attending full-time education

Persons aged 15-24 years who were enrolled full-time at secondary school, high school, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week.

Average compensation per employee

National Accounts. The total compensation of employees divided by the number of employees.

Average earnings (National Accounts basis)

See **average compensation per employee**.

Average hours worked

Aggregate hours worked by a group divided by the number of persons in that group.

Average weekly earnings

Average weekly earnings represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 35 of the Explanatory Notes.

Civilian population aged 15 years and over

All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

Commonwealth government employees

Employees of all departments, agencies and authorities created by or reporting to the Commonwealth Parliament. Those bodies run jointly by the Commonwealth Government and state governments are classified to Commonwealth.

Compensation of employees

National Accounts. The total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable by enterprises to employees in return for work done by the employees during the accounting period. Compensation of employees comprises wages and salaries (in cash and in kind) and **employers' social contributions**. Compensation of employees is not payable in respect of unpaid work undertaken voluntarily, including the work done by members of a household within an unincorporated enterprise owned by the same household. Compensation of employees excludes any taxes payable by the employer on the wage and salary bill (e.g. payroll tax, fringe benefits tax). See **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Contributing family worker

A person who works without pay, in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.

Country of birth

Classified according to the **Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC)** (cat. no. 1269.0).

Couple families

A family based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household.

Dependants

All family members under 15 years, and all children aged 15-24 years attending full-time education (except those who have a partner or child of their own usually resident in the household).

Dependent child

Any child in a family under 15 years of age or aged 15-24 years who is attending full-time education (except those who have a partner or child of their own usually resident in the household).

Dependent student

A child who is 15-24 years of age, who is attending full-time education, and who has no partner or child of his or her own usually resident in the same household.

Discouraged jobseekers

Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons:

- considered to be too young/too old by employers
- lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience
- difficulties because of language or ethnic background
- no jobs in their locality or line of work
- no jobs available at all.

Duration of unemployment

Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Employed

Employed persons include all persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers, who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Employed full-time

See **full-time employed**.

Employed part-time

See **part-time employed**.

Employee

Labour Force Survey and other household surveys. A person who works for a public or private employer and receives remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or a person who operates their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employer surveys. Employees are wage and salary earners who received pay for any part of the reference period. For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 35 of the Explanatory Notes.

Employee job

Wage Price Index. A job for which the occupant receives remuneration in wages, salary, payment in kind, or piece rates. All employee jobs in all employing organisations (except those excluded from all ABS labour employer surveys) are in scope of the WCI, except the following:

- 'non-maintainable' jobs (i.e. jobs that are expected to be occupied for less than six months of a year)
- jobs for which wages and salaries are not determined by the Australian labour market (e.g. working proprietors of small incorporated enterprises, most employees of Community Development Employment Programs, jobs where the remuneration is set in a foreign country).

For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 35 of the Explanatory Notes.

Employer

Labour Force Survey and other household surveys. A person who operates their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires one or more employees.

Employer surveys. A business with one or more employees.

Employers' social contributions

National Accounts. Contributions by employers to pension and superannuation funds; and premiums paid by employers to workers' compensation schemes for occupational injuries and diseases.

Extended labour force underutilisation rate

The unemployed, plus the underemployed, plus two groups of marginally attached to the labour force:

- (i) persons actively looking for work, not available to start work in the reference week, but available to start work within four weeks and
- (ii) discouraged jobseekers

as a percentage of the labour force augmented by (i) and (ii).

Family

Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.

Family reference person

In families which are not couple families or one-parent families, as defined, the family reference person is the eldest person in the household.

Former workers

Unemployed persons who have previously worked for two weeks or more but not in the last two years.

Full-time educational attendance

Persons aged 15-19 who, during the reference week were enrolled full-time at secondary or high schools, and those aged 15-24 who, during the reference week, were enrolled full-time at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other tertiary educational institution.

Full-time employed

Household surveys. Persons employed full-time are those employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Full-time employees

Employer surveys. Full-time employees are permanent, fixed term and casual employees who normally work the agreed or award hours for a full-time employee in their occupation and received pay for any part of the reference period. If agreed or award hours do not apply, employees are regarded as full-time if they ordinarily work 35 hours or more per week.

Gross domestic product (GDP)

National Accounts. The total market value of goods and services produced in Australia within a given period after deducting the cost of goods and services used up in the process of production but before deducting allowances for the consumption of fixed capital. Thus gross domestic product, as here defined, is at 'market prices'. It is equivalent to gross national expenditure plus exports of goods and services less imports of goods and services. See **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Gross mixed income (GMI)

National Accounts. The owners of unincorporated enterprises, or other members of their households, may work without receiving any wage or salary. Mixed income includes both **gross operating surplus** for the unincorporated enterprises and returns for the proprietors' own labour (akin to wages and salaries). See **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Gross operating surplus (GOS)

National Accounts. The amount of gross output remaining after subtracting costs incurred in producing that output, but before any deductions for consumption of fixed capital. See **Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Household

A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, i.e. at different times or in different rooms. Lodgers who receive accommodation but no meals are treated as separate households. Boarders who receive both accommodation and meals are not treated as separate households. A household may consist of any number of families and non-family members.

Industrial dispute

An industrial dispute is defined as a state of disagreement over an issue or group of issues between an employer and its employees, which results in employees ceasing work. Industrial disputes comprise strikes, which are a withdrawal from work by a group of employees; and lockouts, which are a refusal by an employer or group of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work.

Industry

An industry is a group of businesses or organisations that perform similar sets of activities in terms of the production of goods and services. Industry is classified according to the **Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993** (cat. no. 1292.0). The industry assigned to an employed person is the industry of the organisation in which the person's main job is located. Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the last two years are classified according to the industry of their most recent job.

Job leavers

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and **left that job voluntarily** - that is, because (for example): of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; the job was a holiday job or they left the job to return to studies; or their last job was running their own business and they closed down or sold that business for reasons other than financial difficulties.

Job losers

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and **left that job involuntarily**: that is, they were laid off or retrenched from that job; left that job because of their own ill-health or injury; the job was seasonal or temporary; or their last job was running their own business and the business closed down because of financial difficulties.

Job vacancy

A job vacancy is an employee job available for immediate filling on the survey reference date and for which recruitment action has been taken. Recruitment action includes efforts to fill vacancies by advertising, by factory notices, by notifying public or private employment agencies or trade unions and by contacting, interviewing or selecting applicants already registered with the enterprise or organisation. Excluded are vacancies:

- for jobs which became vacant on the survey date and were filled that same day
- for jobs of less than one day's duration
- to be filled by persons already hired, or by promotion or transfer of existing employees
- to be filled by employees returning from paid or unpaid leave or after industrial dispute(s)
- not available for immediate filling on the survey reference date
- for work to be carried out by contractors
- for which no recruitment action has been taken
- where a person has been appointed but has not yet commenced duty
- to be filled by staff from contract labour agencies
- for jobs available only to persons already employed by the enterprise or organisation.

For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 35 of the Explanatory Notes.

Labour force

The labour force is the labour supply available for the production of economic goods and services in a given period, and is the most widely used measure of the economically active population. Persons in the labour force are classified as either employed or unemployed according to their activities during the reference period by using a specific set of priority rules.

Labour force status

A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.

Labour force underutilisation rate

The unemployed plus the underemployed, as a percentage of the labour force.

Local government employees

Employees of municipalities and shires and other local authorities created by or subject to the provisions of local government legislation, such as county councils in New South Wales.

Lone parent

A person who has no spouse or partner present in the household but who forms a parent-child relationship with at least one dependent or non-dependent child usually resident in the household.

Lone person

A person who makes provision for their food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household. They may live in a dwelling on their own or share a dwelling with another individual or family.

Long-term unemployed

Persons unemployed for 12 months or more. See **duration of unemployment** for details of the calculation of duration of unemployment.

Long-term unemployment rate

The number of long-term unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Marginal attachment to the labour force

Persons who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work, and:

- were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criteria to be classified as unemployed or
- were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks or could start work within four weeks if child care was available.

The criteria for determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.

Marital status

See **social marital status**.

Mean age

The sum of the ages of all the persons in a group, divided by the total number of persons in that group.

Mean duration of unemployment

The sum of the duration of unemployment of all the unemployed persons in a group, divided by the total number of unemployed persons in that group.

Median age

The age which divides a group of persons into two equal groups: one comprising persons whose age is above the median; and the other, persons whose age is below it.

Median duration of unemployment

The duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal groups: one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median; and the other, persons whose duration is below it.

Non-dependent child

A child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, aged over 15 years and who is not a dependent student aged 15-24 years, and who has no partner or child of their own usually resident in the household.

Non-family member

A person who is not related to any other member of the household in which they are living.

Not in the labour force

Persons who were not classified as employed or unemployed.

Occupation

An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their main tasks to be grouped together for the purposes of classification. Occupation is classified according to the **ASCO Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition** (cat. no. 1220.0). The occupation assigned to an employed person relates to the person's main job. Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the last two years are classified according to the occupation of their most recent job.

One-parent family

A family consisting of a lone parent with at least one dependent or non-dependent child (regardless of age) who is also usually resident in the household.

Ordinary time earnings

See **weekly ordinary time earnings**.

Original series

Estimates produced directly from the survey data, before seasonal adjustment or trend estimation takes place.

Other family

Related individuals residing in the same household who do not form a couple or parent-child relationship with any other person in the household and are not attached to a couple or one parent family in the household. If two brothers, for example, are living together and neither is a spouse, a lone parent or a child, then they are classified as other family.

Overtime earnings

See **weekly overtime earnings**.

Own-account worker

A person who operates his or her own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires no employees.

Participation rate

The labour force participation rate for any group within the population is the labour force component of that group, expressed as a percentage of the population in that group.

Part-time employed

Household surveys. Persons employed part-time are those employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Reason for leaving last job

Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the past two years classified by whether they left that job voluntarily, that is, job leavers; or left that job involuntarily, that is, job losers.

Seasonally adjusted series

A time series of estimates with the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation removed. See paragraphs 7-13 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

Social marital status

Social marital status is the relationship status of an individual with reference to another person who is usually resident in the household. A marriage exists when two people live together as husband and wife, or partners, regardless of whether the marriage is formalised through registration. Individuals are, therefore, regarded as married if they are in a de facto marriage, or if they are living with the person to whom they are registered as married.

State capital cities

The areas determining the six state capital cities are the Statistical Divisions for those capital cities defined in the **Statistical Geography: Volume 1 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)** (cat. no. 1216.0).

State government employees

Employees of all State government departments and authorities created by, or reporting to, State Parliaments, including organisations for which the Commonwealth has assumed financial responsibility. Following self-government, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory administrations have been classified to State Governments. Employees of State Governments employed interstate are included in the estimates of the State in which they are based.

Status in employment

Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers.

Total earnings

See **weekly total earnings**.

Total hourly rates of pay index excluding bonuses

Wage Price Index. This index measures quarterly change in a weighted combination of ordinary time and overtime hourly rates of pay. See **Labour Price Index, Australia** (cat. no. 6345.0) for more information.

Trend series

A smoothed seasonally adjusted series of estimates. See paragraphs 7-13 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

Underemployed workers

Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise:

- persons employed part-time who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey
- persons employed full-time who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.

Underemployment rate

The number of underemployed workers expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week, or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Unemployed looking for first full-time job

Unemployed persons looking for full-time work who had never worked full-time for two weeks or more.

Unemployed looking for first job

Unemployed persons who had never worked for two weeks or more.

Unemployed looking for full-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for full-time work, or
- were waiting to start a new full-time job.

Unemployed looking for part-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for part-time work only, or
- were waiting to start a new part-time job.

Unemployment rate

The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unemployment to population ratio

For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

Usual hours worked

The hours usually worked per week by an employed person.

Wage and salary earners

See **employee**.

Weekly ordinary time earnings

Weekly ordinary time earnings refers to one week's earnings of employees for the reference period attributable to award, standard or agreed hours of work, calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation, board and lodging) have been made. Included are piecework payments and one week's portion of regular production and task bonuses and commissions. Excluded are overtime payments and payments not related to the reference period, e.g. bonus payments for earlier periods of work.

Weekly overtime earnings

Weekly overtime earnings refers to payment for hours worked in the reference week in excess of award, standard or agreed hours of work, calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation) have been made.

Weekly total earnings

Weekly total earnings of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.

Working days lost

Refers to working days lost by employees directly and indirectly involved in the dispute.

Working days lost per thousand employees

Calculated for a quarterly period by dividing the total number of working days lost in the period by the total number of employees in the Australian labour force in the period (obtained from the ABS Labour Force Survey) and multiplying by 1,000.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used in this publication

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWE	average weekly earnings
EEH	Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours
GDP	gross domestic product
ID	industrial disputes
ILO	International Labour Organisation
JVS	Job Vacancies Survey
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LPI	labour price index
MPS	Monthly Population Survey
qtr	quarter
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SEE	Survey of Employment and Earnings

Data Sources for Tables (Appendix)

APPENDIX 1 - DATA SOURCES FOR TABLES

HOW TO FIND DATA SOURCES

To find a publication on the ABS web site, go to <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [AusStats - Publications and Data - Publications]. Publications can be accessed by catalogue number and subject e.g. to find the publication **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0), look under '62. Labour force'. Catalogue numbers are listed under the relevant subject listing.

Similarly, to find spreadsheets and data cubes, go to <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [AusStats - Publications and Data], then [Data Cubes] or [Time Series Spreadsheets]. Individual numbered spreadsheets and data cubes are listed under the catalogue number. Monthly, quarterly and annual products are listed separately.

No.	Table description	Data source	Notes
1.1	Trend	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) 6202.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	
1.2	Age by marital status	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	
1.3	States and territories	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2	Excludes Capital city/balance of state
1.4	Educational attendance	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3	
1.5	Country of birth	6291.0.55.001 data cube LM4	More detailed Age Includes Sex, State, Less detailed Country of birth
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM5	Includes Sex, Age, State, Less detailed Country of birth
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM6	Includes Sex, State
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM7	Includes Sex, State, Less detailed Country of birth
	Year of arrival	6291.0.55.001 data cube LM4	Includes Sex, State, Less detailed Country of birth
		6291.0.55.001 data cube LM7	Includes Sex, State, Less detailed Country of birth
1.6	Relationship in household	6291.0.55.001 data cube FM1 6291.0.55.001 data cube FM2 6291.0.55.001 data cube FM3 6291.0.55.001 data cube FM4	Includes State Includes Age Includes Hours worked Unemployed persons only, Includes Duration of unemployment June data only
1.7	Families	6291.0.55.001 data cube FA2	
1.8	International comparisons	International Labour Organisation, Year Book of Labour Statistics 1998, 2000, 2001 and 2002 International Labour Organisation, Key Indicators of the Labour Market 2001-02 International Labour Organisation, LABORSTA database: http://laborsta.ilo.org	
2.1	Industry: trend	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Employed full-time, Employed part-time
2.2	Industry: divisions and subdivisions	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 6 6291.0.55.001 data cube E03 6291.0.55.001 data cube E05 6291.0.55.001 data cube E06	Includes Sex, State, Hours worked, Less detailed Industry Includes Sex, Age, Status in employment, Hours worked Includes Sex, State, Status in employment, Hours worked, More detailed Industry
2.3	Occupation	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 7 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 12 6291.0.55.001 data cube E07 6291.0.55.001 data cube E08	Less detailed Occupation Includes Hours worked, Less detailed Occupation Includes Age, Hours worked, Status in employment Includes State, Status in employment, More detailed Occupation
2.4	Industry and Occupation by full-time part-time status	6291.0.55.001 data cube E09	Includes State, Hours worked
2.5	Industry by status in employment	6291.0.55.001 data cube E04 6291.0.55.001 data cube E05 6291.0.55.001 data cube E06	Includes Sex, State, Excludes Industry Includes Sex, Age, More detailed Industry Includes Sex, State, More detailed Industry
	Occupation by status in employment	6291.0.55.001 data cube E04 6291.0.55.001 data cube E07 6291.0.55.001 data cube E08	Includes Sex, State, Excludes Occupation Includes Sex, Age, More detailed Occupation Includes Sex, State, More detailed Occupation
	Hours worked in all jobs by status in employment	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 8 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 13 6291.0.55.001 data cube E04 6291.0.55.001 data cube E05 6291.0.55.001 data cube E06 6291.0.55.001 data cube E07 6291.0.55.001 data cube E08	Excludes Hours worked, Includes Sex, Employed full-time, Employed part-time Includes Sex Includes Sex, State Includes Sex, Age, Industry Includes Sex, State, Industry Includes Sex, Age, Occupation Includes Sex, State, Occupation
2.6	Average hours worked in all jobs by Industry	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 11 6291.0.55.001 data cube E03 6291.0.55.001 data cube E05 6291.0.55.001 data cube E06	Includes State Includes Age, Status in employment, More detailed Industry Includes State, Status in employment, More detailed Industry

	Average hours worked in all jobs by Occupation	6291.0.55.001 data cube E09 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 12	Includes State, Occupation
		6291.0.55.001 data cube E07	Includes Age, Status in employment, More detailed Occupation
		6291.0.55.001 data cube E08	Includes State, Status in employment, More detailed Occupation
2.7	Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 data cube E09 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 9 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 11 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 12 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 13 6291.0.55.001 data cube EM1 6291.0.55.001 data cube E03 6291.0.55.001 data cube E04	Includes State, Industry Includes Industry Includes Occupation Includes Status in employment Includes Age, State Includes State, Industry Includes State, Status in employment
2.8	Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 9 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 11 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 12 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 13 6291.0.55.001 data cube EM1 6291.0.55.001 data cube E03 6291.0.55.001 data cube E04	Includes Industry Includes Occupation Includes Status in employment Includes Age, State Includes State, Industry Includes State, Status in employment
	Usual hours worked in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 10 6291.0.55.001 data cube EM3 6291.0.55.001 data cube E10	Includes Age, State Includes State, Industry
2.9	Full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours in all jobs	6291.0.55.001 data cube EM2	Includes Age, State, Hours worked
2.10	Future employment expectations by job tenure	6291.0.55.001 data cube E02	Excludes Future employment expectations, Includes State, Age
2.11	Public sector employees	Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001)	
	Public sector employees: Australia Totals	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	Includes State
	Public sector employees by Level of government: Trend	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Commonwealth government, State, Seasonally adjusted and Original data Includes State government, State, Seasonally adjusted and Original data Includes Local government, State, Seasonally adjusted and Original data
	Public sector employees by State: Trend	6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 4 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 7a 6248.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 7a	Includes Seasonally adjusted and Original data Includes Commonwealth government, Seasonally adjusted and Original data Includes State government, Seasonally adjusted and Original data Includes Local government, Seasonally adjusted and Original data Includes Industry
3.1	Unemployed persons: Duration of unemployment by Age	6291.0.55.001 data cube UM2 6291.0.55.001 data cube UM3	Excludes Age, Median Duration of unemployment Excludes Median Duration of unemployment
3.2	Long-term unemployed	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 15 6291.0.55.001 data cube UM2 6291.0.55.001 data cube UM3	Excludes Trend data, Includes State, More detailed Duration of unemployment Excludes Trend data, Includes State, Age
3.3	Unemployed persons: Reason for unemployment by Industry of last job	6291.0.55.001 data cube UQ1 6291.0.55.001 data cube UQ2	Excludes Industry of last job Excludes Reason for unemployment
	Unemployed persons: Reason for unemployment by Occupation of last job	6291.0.55.001 data cube UQ1 6291.0.55.001 data cube UQ3	Excludes Occupation of last job Excludes Reason for unemployment
4.1	Underutilised labour	6105.0 spreadsheet table 1	
4.2	Underutilised labour	6105.0 spreadsheet table 1	
4.3	Part-time workers	6291.0.55.001 data cube E01	Less detailed Hours worked
4.4	Persons not in the labour force	6291.0.55.001 data cube NM1	
5.1	Labour price index	Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0)	
	Labour price index: Trend data	6345.0 spreadsheet table 1	
	Labour price index: Australia, States and territories	6345.0 spreadsheet table 2b	
	Labour price index: Private sector	6345.0 spreadsheet table 3b	Includes State
	Labour price index: Public sector	6345.0 spreadsheet table 4b	Includes State
	Labour price index: Industry	6345.0 spreadsheet table 5b	Includes Sector
	Labour price index: Occupation	6345.0 spreadsheet table 7b	Includes Sector
5.2	Average weekly earnings	Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)	
	Average weekly earnings by Sex	6302.0 spreadsheet table 1	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
	Average weekly earnings: Private sector	6302.0 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
	Average weekly earnings: Public sector	6302.0 spreadsheet table 7	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
5.3	Compensation of employees	Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)	

6.1	Industrial disputes: Working days lost	Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001)
	Industrial disputes: Working days lost by State	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3a
	Industrial disputes: Working days lost by Industry	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2a
6.2	Industrial disputes: Working days lost per 1,000 employees	Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001)
	Industrial disputes: Working days lost per 1,000 employees by State	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3b
	Industrial disputes: Working days lost per 1,000 employees by Industry	6321.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2b
7.1	Job vacancies	Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0)
	Job vacancies: Australia, States and Territories	6354.0 spreadsheet table 1c

List of Articles (Appendix)

APPENDIX 2 - LIST OF ARTICLES

January 2005

Labour force participation in Australia

Experimental estimates of the average age at withdrawal from the labour force

Spotlight: Employment in information and communication technology (ICT)

Spotlight: Labour Price Index

Technical report: Implementation of computer assisted interviewing in the Labour Force Survey

October 2004

Changes in types of employment

Mature age people and the labour force

July 2004

Children living without an employed parent

Labour underutilisation

Spotlight: Industrial disputes

Technical report: Labour Force Survey regions

April 2004

Job search experience: methods and barriers in finding jobs

Trade union membership

Spotlight: Occupation

Technical report: Improvements to labour force estimates

January 2004

Employment in information and communication technology

Labour force participation: international comparison

Technical report: Changes to Labour Force Survey seasonal adjustment processes

October 2003

Labour market transitions of teenagers

Spotlight: Country of birth

Spotlight: Multiple job holders

Technical report: New Labour Force Survey sample selections: analysis of the effect on estimates

July 2003

Experimental volume measures of labour underutilisation

Unemployment and participation rates in Australia: a cohort analysis

Spotlight: Population, participation and productivity: contributions to Australia's economic growth

Technical report: Measures of weekly hours worked

April 2003

Do job vacancies provide a leading indicator of employment growth?

Characteristics of underemployed workers

Spotlight: Parental leave

Spotlight: Methods of setting pay

Technical report: Labour Force Survey sample redesign

Note: the following articles appeared in **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6203.0).

December 2002

Volatility of labour force estimates

October 2002

Measures of labour underutilisation

February 2002

Seasonal reanalysis of monthly labour force estimates

October 2001

Full-time and part-time employment

August 2001

Experimental estimates: labour force characteristics of Indigenous Australians

June 2001

Duration of unemployment: recent definitional changes

February 2001

Unemployment and supplementary measures of underutilised labour

May 2000

Status in employment data changes: correction

April 2000

Using the unemployment rate series to illustrate the seasonal adjustment process

December 1999

Why are there differences between two seasonally adjusted measures of Australian total employment?

November 1999

Industry, occupation and status in employment data

Related Publications (Appendix)

APPENDIX 3 - RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Title	cat. no.	Frequency	Latest issue
Information papers and other reference material			
ABS Labour Market Statistics	6106.0.55.001	Irregular	2003
Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources & Methods	5216.0	Irregular	2000
Changes to Labour Force Survey Products	6297.0	Irregular	2003
Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics	6292.0	Irregular	2003
Labour Force Survey Sample Design	6269.0	Irregular	2003
Labour Force Survey Standard Errors	6298.0	Irregular	2003
Labour Price Index: Statistics Concepts, Sources & Methods	6351.0.55.001	Irregular	2004
Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources & Methods	6102.0.55.001	Irregular	ABS web site
Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey	6232.0	Irregular	2004
Labour force supplementary surveys			
Career Experience	6254.0	Irregular	Nov 2002
Child Care	4402.0	Irregular	Jun 2002
Education & Work	6227.0	Annual	May 2004
Employee Earnings, Benefits & Trade Union Membership	6310.0	Annual	Aug 2004
Forms of Employment	6359.0	Irregular	Nov 2001
Job Search Experience	6222.0	Annual	Jul 2004
Labour Force Experience	6206.0	Biennial	Feb 2003
Labour Force Status & Other Characteristics of Families(a)	6224.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Labour Force Status & Other Characteristics of Migrants	6250.0	Irregular	Nov 1999
Labour Mobility	6209.0	Biennial	Feb 2004
Locations of Work	6275.0	Irregular	Jun 2000
Multiple Jobholding(b)	6216.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Persons Not in the Labour Force	6220.0	Annual	Sep 2004
Retirement & Retirement Intentions	6238.0	Irregular	Nov 1997
Retrenchment & Redundancy(c)	6266.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2001
Underemployed Workers	6265.0	Annual	Sep 2004
Work-Related Injuries	6324.0	Irregular	Sep 2000
Working Arrangements	6342.0	Irregular	Nov 2003
Sub-annual labour surveys			
Average Weekly Earnings	6302.0	Quarterly	Nov 2004
Industrial Disputes	6321.0.55.001	Quarterly	Dec qtr 2004
Job Vacancies	6354.0	Quarterly	Feb 2005
Labour Force	6202.0	Monthly	Feb 2005
Labour Price Index	6345.0	Quarterly	Dec qtr 2004
Wage & Salary Earners, Public Sector	6248.0.55.001	Quarterly	Dec qtr 2004
Other labour surveys			
Employee Earnings & Hours	6306.0	Biennial	May 2004
Employer Training Expenditure & Practices	6362.0	Irregular	2001-02
Labour Costs	6348.0.55.001	Irregular	2002-03
Other publications			
Australian Economic Indicators	1350.0	Monthly	Apr 2005
Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure & Product	5206.0	Quarterly	Dec 2004
Australian Social Trends	4102.0	Annual	2004
Australian System of National Accounts	5204.0	Annual	2002-03
Australians' Employment & Unemployment Patterns: First Results	6289.0	Irregular	1994 to 1996
Business Indicators	5676.0	Quarterly	Dec 2004
Census of Population & Housing: Selected Education & Labour Force Statistics	2017.0	Irregular	2001
Education & Training Indicators	4230.0	Irregular	2002
Employment Arrangements & Superannuation	6361.0	Irregular	Apr to Jun 2000
General Social Survey	4159.0	Irregular	2002
Government Benefits, Taxes & Household Income	6537.0	Irregular	1998-99
Household Income & Income Distribution	6523.0	Irregular	2002-2003
Measures of Australia's Progress	1370.0	Irregular	2004
Regional Wage & Salary Earners - Electronic Publication	5673.0.55.001	Annual	2000-01
Superannuation: Coverage & Financial Characteristics	6360.0	Irregular	Apr to Jun 2000
Voluntary Work	4441.0	Irregular	2000

- (a) Latest data available via the ABS web site, and on request, for June 2003.
- (b) Latest data available on request for July 2001.
- (c) Related data available from Labour Mobility.

More information available (I-Note) - Data Cubes

See **Information Paper Measures of Labour Underutilisation** (cat. no. 6296.0)

See Feature Article - **Labour underutilisation** in July 2004 issue of 6105.0

See Feature Article - **Annual measures of Labour underutilisation** in April 2005 issue

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